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with Cathy Oberholtzer

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POLITICAL FASTTRACKS?

After 17 years of talking you'd expect somebody would get the message. After 17 years of talking you'd expect that somebody would understand the message. After 17 years of patience you'd expect more than a slap in the face.

That is in effect what the Liberal government did when they tossed \$1.8 million in Chisasibi's lap and said this is for the airport. Chisasibi wanted a runway that air ambulances could land on. Will a portion of the \$1.8 million be spent on that? Nope, not a snowball's chance in... well, you know.

Chisasibi was looking for a building for passengers, crew and airport equipment. Is a portion of the \$1.8 million going to do that? Nope, not by the hair of the Liberal's chinny chinny chin.

Chisasibi wanted night lights in case they had to send out emergency patients during the night. Will a portion of the money go towards that? Yessiree, but... An awfully big butt in this case. You see, however, you really don't because there isn't any transmission lines to power up the lights!

Great shades of not seeing the runway in the night. Great shades of government ineptitude, stupidity, witlessness, feeble-mindedness, boondogoling... Well, I think you can get the idea without running on about it for 17 years or so.

What witless wonder came up with the idea this was going to solve problems in Chisasibi? To be sure the \$1.8 million is no doubt welcome and will go to improve the airport but the sad fact remains that it isn't more than a baby step towards dealing with the true problems of the Chisasibi airport.

Let's face it, Judge Paul said it all when he said Crees lives are at stake. Chisasibi has the main hospital for the Crees and they may need to be med'evaced out by air ambulance. A trip to Radisson airport in uncertain conditions is no solution.

Radisson itself is doomed to become nothing more than a ghost town, according to the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement. Wouldn't true intelligence say to serve the permanent population in the area rather than the transient one?

Perhaps this is why Hydro-Quebec hasn't rushed forward to install a transmission line. They hate the thought of losing the town of Radisson to a footnote in the history books let alone losing Cree dependency on them in any way. Of course, it could be something as crass as not wanting to spend money even though Hydro pulls lots and lots and lots of money out of the Cree territory each and every year. Spare change must be used for top management bonuses, good-bye parties and in the past for Solar Temple coffers.

The feds say to go to Quebec for the needed moneys. What ingratitude!

After all the help the No campaign received from the Crees during the sovereignty referendum. If there ever was an English/Indian conspiracy that some Quebecois talk about, I think it's time to end that relationship.

But there is no go news from the PQ'ists either. Quebec laughed when asked if there was any money for that (see story, page 5).

Well there isn't anybody laughing in Chisasibi, just 17 years of patience starting to wear thin.

by William Nicholls

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National Day of
Action, Montreal.

Photo by David Mohan.

MAY 9, 1997



CATCH, TWIST, ROLL, DROP.....

Winnipeg at present is a headline writer's wet dream." Red River Rising, The Exodus Begins, 20,000 Set To Flee, Flood Of The Century, Higher And Higher.

Gates Of salvation, From Bad To Worse" And the latest, " 10,000 Winnipeggers On Evacuation Alert"

Just days from now the name of the city will once again take on its meaning, literally. There are 100,000 heads of cattle floating around on the Red River.

Someone also mentioned thousands of dead cats. Toxic materials. The number of mosquitoes in the summer, already a nuisance on humid days, will probably increase exponentially. Locusts are expected to ravage crops. Citizens are being advised by health authorities to get shots to fight off diseases which would cause mass panic in the streets of Montreal. It's just my luck that I'm already booked for several weeks in the city this summer. It's perverse, I know, but I'm looking forward to it.

The news on TV carries stories of "Operation Noah" and the Flood Channel's on 24 hours a day it seems. The papers have detailed instructions on how to build temporary dikes with sandbags complete with illustrations. My colleagues and I mastered the art of sandbagging in minutes. It's very simple really. Catch, twist, roll, drop. Catch, twist, roll, drop. Repeat for several hours, take a break and start all over again. One person on the sandbagging line said this was her daily workout.

Recent census figures say Winnipeg has 60,000 native people. Ten percent of the city. One person I talked to said it is closer to 80,000 if you take into account the Metis and non status "Indians" The entire native population of Quebec is by some estimates about the same. A huge majority live in the North End. An area of high unemployment, abandoned houses, boarded up businesses, pawn shops and bars where most Winnipeggers fear to tread. On the night of our arrival we walked through the neighbourhood to find a place to eat but there was nothing open so we took a bus

back. I was amazed to see nothing but native faces.

I went to visit a community centre one afternoon and there was a bingo on. There were more men than women playing. Back home men only play radio bingo and when they win they have their wives call in their numbers for them. I guess they feel playing bingo in public will lessen their macho status in the community. Someone also told us that there was an organization at one time which provided escorts for bingo winners. One centre we visited held food bingo's in their basement. But there was a catch if you wanted your prize. You would have to sing a song or humble yourself by grunting like a pig or another animal. At the game we saw, a winner refused to sing but got her food anyway. But only after an uncomfortable period of silence and calls from other players demanding she perform. "Come on" said one woman, "If I grunted like a pig, then you can sing." Another interesting little snippet of information we learned of the North End is that many of the streets are named after madams of the 1940's. Lulu, Dagmar, Agnes, Isabel, Stella. Those fine, upstanding ladies are now immortalized on street corners. I don't know if neighbouring streets named after men were their most frequent clients. I don't know what's better, naming streets after nonexistent saints like they do in Montreal or bordello madams.

Should you visit the city one spring, don't forget. It's catch, twist, roll, drop. Catch, twist, roll, drop.

Ndiamon

Corrections: In the last issue RCMP Probes Judge Paul was written by William Nicholls, not Alex Roslin. The Story on Dead Air in Chisasibi had two mistakes. The staff walked out on April 2nd, not April 1st and the radio station did not receive a reply from the Band Council, favourable or otherwise. Apologies if this caused problems.



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CHISASIBI GETS \$1.8M FOR AIRPORT BUT STILL NO AIR AMBULANCE, ELECTRICITY, BUILDING

It may have gone unnoticed in the rest of the country, but the federal government's very first election goodie apparently went to the Crees.

A 17-year wait for Chisasibi finally came to an end on April 22 when the feds pledged \$1.8 million to give the community's airstrip a much-needed facelift. A federal election was called just days later.

But the election goodie has proven to be a dud. The feds announced they would spend \$1.8 million to "refurbish" the gravel runway, build a taxiway and parking area for planes, install runway lighting and install a temporary equipment shed.

Even with the new spending, however, the airstrip will still have no electricity. The feds have refused to pay for a transmission line to bring power to the site, and without electricity, the lights are useless.

Chisasibi especially needs the lights because it is home to the Cree regional hospital. Medical evacuations are often needed during night-time. Without lights, night-time landings are impossible and medical traffic must go through the better-equipped airport at LG-2, 102 kilometres away.

The Chisasibi band has written to Hydro-Quebec asking the utility to build a power transmission line to the airstrip, but a Quebec government source told us privately it's not likely that HQ will do so.

Chief Charles Bobbish said the lights could end up being powered by a generator. But that is just a "bandaid" solution: "What happens if the generator doesn't work one evening?" he asked.

Another problem: Chisasibi,

which is the largest Cree community, still won't be getting a building for Air Creebec staff to work in, navigational equipment, and passengers and those accompanying them. Other, smaller Cree communities with airports have such buildings.

Finally, the feds turned down a Cree request that the airstrip be extended from 3,000 to 5,000 feet. Quebec's air ambulance planes need 5,000 feet to land, plus airports with advanced navigational gear. The two Inuit communities with regional hospitals, Puvirnituq and Kuujuaq, are blessed with airstrips 5,000 feet or longer and equipped with the necessary equipment. Chisasibi will have neither.

"I'm not too impressed. Our whole objective is to get a real airport with everything in it," said Bobbish. "We're taking chances every time we land. That money has been a long time coming."

Ottawa is responsible for safety and security of Canadian airports. Sylvain Lessard, federal director of airports in Quebec, said he "pushed" to get Chisasibi the \$1.8 million before the election. As for the money still needed, he said Chisasibi can ask Quebec. A Quebec official responded to this by laughing. "We don't have any programs for that." He held out one hope for Chisasibi: appeal directly to the transport ministers of Quebec and Canada for special funding.

Last fall, Quebec Judge Rejean Paul condemned the feds for leaving Chisasibi with an unsafe airport for so many years. "This problem should be solved, and quickly..."

The welfare of that community and Crees in general is at stake."

by Alex Roslin

OPP GUILTY AS CHARGED IN SHOOTING

Judge Hugh Fraser accused an Ontario Provincial Police officer of "concocting" excuses and found him guilty of negligence causing death in the shooting of a Chippewa protester in 1995.

Dudley George, 30, was killed by a machine gun bullet during an assault by 50 OPP riot-squad and tactical-unit officers on a peaceful group of Native protesters at Ipperwash Provincial Park on Sept. 6, 1995.

Witnesses reported that some of the police had been drinking before the assault. Fighting broke out between the two sides after police severely beat a Native Band Council member.

When police started firing, they also shot and wounded a 15-year-old Chippewa.

Acting Sgt. Kenneth Deane, charged with shooting George, claimed that George had a gun and fired first. But this was contradicted by another officer who said George was merely carrying a stick or pole. OPP and Native witnesses testified that police had given the protesters no warning before they attacked, and no order to clear out of the way.

Judge Fraser rejected Deane's story. "I find that... George did not have any firearm on his person. The story of his rifle and the muzzle flash were concocted after the fact in an ill-fated attempt to disguise the fact that an unarmed man was shot. I find you were not honest in offering this version of events."

The protesters, among them children, had occupied which contained a sacred burial ground. Ottawa had seized land in the area from the Chippewa during World War II, but never returned it.

George's family has launched a \$7-million lawsuit against the Ontario government and police, but says it will drop the suit if the government launches a public inquiry into what happened.

Internal government documents obtained by reporters show the Ontario government ordered the OPP to clear protesters out of the park. Both the government and police had denied that any orders were given to police.

- Alex Roslin (With files from Native News Network of Canada)

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QUEBEC ALMOST FAILS ENVIRO-TEST

Quebec is "an inch from flunking" the World Wildlife Fund's annual report card on the environment. The province got a D-minus, one of the lowest grades in the country. Last year, it got a C-minus.

Quebec was chastized for sluggish progress on protecting wilderness from logging, mining and hydro-electric development.

In 1992, Quebec and other provinces pledged to protect 12 per cent of their territories from development. Quebec has set aside only 4.2 per cent so far.

Only two Canadian provinces and territories scored lower than Quebec, Saskatchewan and New Brunswick, which both got an F.

MINKS FREAK OUT

An attempt by U.S. animal-rights activists to free minks from an Ontario fur farm ended in disaster when 300 of the 1,500 animals died from exposure and stress after being released.

Another 30 were hit by cars on nearby roads, and an unknown number were killed fighting among themselves.

Most of the surviving animals were caught in a wild, early-morning chase. "They don't understand what they've done," said ranch owner Bill McLellan of the five activists who were arrested in conjunction with the incident. "They thought they'd live happily ever after, but these are very domesticated."

Minks are normally in hibernation at this time of the year, McLellan said.

NUNGAK BACK

Zebedee Nungak is back at the helm of Makivik Corporation for three more years.

Nungak won 79 per cent of the Nunavik vote in the April 11 election. About half of the 4,347 eligible voters cast a ballot. "I feel entirely comfortable with the result," said Nungak.

-Nunatsiaq News

IRWIN OUT

Indian Affairs and Northern Development Minister Ron Irwin has announced he will not seek re-election. Irwin thanked his family and friends, and said "meegwetch" to the Elders, chiefs, Native and Inuit peoples who "have befriended me and taught me."



DONOHUE PLANS 94-KM LOGGING ROAD

It was unthinkable 10 years ago, but loggers now have their eyes on the most northern commercially viable trees in Iiyuuuschii.

Montreal-based Donohue is reaching out to the end of the treeline with a new forestry road in the Waswanipi territory.

The company wants to start work on a new 94-kilometre logging road this summer. About half will be an upgrade of existing road, but the plans include building a bridge across the Broadback River and 29 km of road built on the other side of the river.

The road will cross virgin Category III land in four Waswanipi traplines close to the Nemaska territory.

"It is the northern-most road in the system of forestry roads that will be built," said Ginette Lajoie of the Cree Regional Authority. Lajoie said Waswanipi has now almost been encircled by the network of logging roads heading east from the James Bay Highway and another network snaking west from the Route du Nord.

Little information has been provided to the Crees about the new road, except for a small-scale map vaguely outlining its path. Few people in Waswanipi knew anything about the Donohue road when *The Nation* called.

Andre Dupras, a vice-president at Donohue, said the road will give the company access to 155,000 hectares of forest it wants to cut on the other side of the Broadback.

The company is now in the process of getting approval from the Quebec Environment Ministry. In recent memory, only two roads in Cree land have ever gone to environmental-impact hearings. Both were approved anyway.

Donohue's road is now be-

fore the COMEV committee, whose two Cree representatives are outvoted by two from Quebec and two from Canada. COMEV is now deciding whether Donohue will have to do a report on the road's impacts on the environment and, if so, what questions the company will have to answer.

The Cree representatives, Philip Awashish and Brian Craik, will argue that the company should study the impacts of the road and resulting forestry operations on the Cree way of life, culture and society.

But the government representatives are expected to demand far less. Donohue will probably be asked only to answer technical questions about the road, and nothing about impacts on Cree society.

COMEV's next meeting is in early May.

Awashish said forestry roads have given non-Natives uncontrolled access to the heart of Cree territory. Crees have lost equipment and other property from their cabins due to theft, something unheard of only years ago.

Awashish also expressed concern about the impact on wildlife from forestry operations, increased vehicle traffic and the resulting noise.

Forestry companies often don't follow government rules, which adds to the problems, said Awashish. For example, culverts are often not properly installed, which causes major damage to river eco-systems.

"The trappers have become social victims of development. They are not compensated for the loss of use of their trapping territories, nor for the loss of their rights.

The impact that clearcutting has had on the life of Crees is a grave major concern."

by Alex Roslin

Have you ever wondered where your lost loved ones are?

I have always been curious about my father's family and other living relatives. I would often think about my father and when I did there would be an aching in my heart that I longed to have filled.

I have never heard nor seen my father during the time I was growing up. I never really paid attention to my mother when she spoke of him. I had always thought perhaps he did not really want a daughter. It never occurred to me that maybe he may have been afraid to contact me, his daughter.

Now that I am older and think more maturely I realize that a piece of my life has been missing. I have asked myself questions like; do I have brothers or sisters somewhere out there? Does my father have a family of his own? If so, who are they, who do they look like? What are their names?

A couple of months ago with the help of Ernie T. Sutherland these questions were answered for me. Ernie through his resources discovered that my father Harry Otter had lived in Waswanipi, Quebec. Ernie's search led to my father's common-law spouse Annie Happyjack. She informed Ernie that Harry Otter had passed away as a result of a tragic car accident on May 26, 1990. My heart sank when I learned of this, but tears of joy flooded my soul when Ernie told me I had a half-sister named Sheila Happyjack.

Contact was made with Annie beginning with letters and then telephone calls. Annie later sent pictures of my sister Sheila. It was then I knew I had to meet them in person. The next step was for me to travel to meet Sheila and Annie.

On December 21st, my mother, Ernie and Barbara, and myself

set out for Val d'Or, Quebec where we would meet Annie and Sheila. The place we agreed to meet was a shopping mall as Annie had yet to finish her Christmas shopping.

When we arrived there Ernie located an information booth and had Annie paged. Moments later Annie and Sheila arrived. For me it was the greatest moment in my life when I saw my sister and saw the most beautiful person ever, inside me floods of joy filled my soul. It seemed as if time stood still at first and no one knew exactly what to do, but then I moved toward Sheila and hugged her. That moment will forever be embedded in my memory as a joyous occasion that words can never explain. There was tears of joy in everyone's eyes that day.

This was the greatest Christmas present ever. That time will be cherished in my heart forever.

Afterwards, I got to meet my aunts, uncles, cousins and my grandfather. My grandfather is an extraordinary man. My new family shared stories and memories of my father with us. I learned that he was a kind and gentle man who was full of love for everyone. Deep down inside I know that my father was with me during that time and the years I spent missing him.

I would like to thank Ernie T. Sutherland and his family for their help and support. Words cannot express how grateful we are for you all.

I would also like to thank my mom for encouraging me to experience the joy of a lifetime. She gave me a great Christmas gift in allowing me the opportunity to meet my late father's family.

Deep in my soul I knew Harry F. Otter's presence was felt amongst us... I will always love and miss you dad.

BY EMYLEE L. WESLEY, MOOSONEE, ONTARIO



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SENECA FACE MASS ARRESTS, BEATINGS AFTER RALLY

by Kenneth Deer

A peaceful demonstration at Cattaraugus called the Honour Indian Treaties Rally to protest the imposition of New York State taxation on Indians turned into a violent confrontation with State Police.

Over 1,000 Seneca and their supporters, including non-Natives, were marching along Routes 5 and 20 on Sunday, April 20, with placards, flags and a drum along with an Iroquois Colour Guard of war veterans.

When the demonstrators turned onto the Interstate Thruway 90, which passes through the reservation, four New York State troopers, one major and three captains, approached the parade. There were another 50 troopers further behind wearing helmets and carrying batons.

There are conflicting reports of what happened next, but an altercation took place and the officers were knocked to the ground. Several police cruisers raced up to assist the officers, some cars banging into each other.

Troopers fought with protesters while trying to help the officers. Pepper spray was used on some protesters and the police claim the protesters used pepper spray on them. Police commanders ordered the troopers to back off because they were still outnumbered, leaving their cars behind.

Some protesters entered the cars, took a police radio, books of tickets and police Stetsons which they wore for the rest of the day. The troopers advanced in three different maneuvers to retrieve the cars. They then withdrew some distance down the highway.

During the initial melee, 12 State Troopers were reported injured, none seriously. No serious injuries were reported by the protesters. The demonstrators continued to occupy the Interstate and at nightfall, they burned tires on the highway until morning.

On Monday morning, State Troopers returned in force and, with heavy machinery, removed the burning tires and other debris from the road. The police then entered the reservation, sealed off all access roads and would not let anyone in or out of the reservation.

Scott Snyder, manager of Seneca Hawk gas station, blamed the troopers for



starting the violence. "We weren't armed. All we wanted them to do was leave our territory," said Snyder. The Senecas were angry, over not only the embargo of gasoline and cigarettes, but also the denial of home heating oil and propane for cooking. A judge had to pass an injunction ordering the state police to allow home deliveries of propane and heating oil.

"Act of war"

"Governor Pataki is violating the sovereignty of the Seneca Nation of Indians and has imposed illegal embargoes on heating and cooking fuel," said a press release from Susan P. Abrams, on behalf of the Seneca Nation.

"He has overstepped his authority by preventing motor fuel to the Seneca Nation of Indians for governmental services to our people and prevented tribal members access to motor fuel even though the court orders have stated the court ruling only applies to the resale of motor fuel and cigarettes to non-Indians.

"This aggression was tantamount to an act of war bringing aggression directly into Seneca Territory.

"Pataki has attempted to strongarm and intimidate the Seneca Nation of Indians to enter into an agreement with New York State. On April 21, 1997, as of 5:00 a.m., well over 150 New York State Troopers have been directed by Governor Pataki to put this Nation under siege.

"Blockades have been put up preventing egress and ingress to our land. Tribal members have been unable to get proper

medical attention, dialysis patients were stopped from going to the hospital for services at the borders, endangering their lives, several women were assaulted without provocation, an unknown number of tribal members were assaulted and arrested earlier this morning.

"At 7:00 a.m., several eyewitnesses revealed one woman, Angle Steeprock, was brutally beaten into unconsciousness and denied medical attention while NYS troopers slammed her into a back seat of a trooper vehicle and was observed as not regaining consciousness. Her condition is still unknown."

Police have made over two dozen arrests on Monday and Tuesday, April 21 and 22. More than 100 troopers in riot gear stood sentry Monday night at the intersection of Routes 438, 5 and 20, a main entrance to the reservation.

Scores more lined the state thruway in the vicinity of Route 438 while a State Police chopper circled overhead.

2nd rally planned

The State of New York agreed to pull out most of the troopers ringing the Seneca reservation in return for the resumption of talks on the tax dispute at a meeting on Tuesday, April 22.

Removing the riot-clad troopers and reopening reservation roads was a top priority of the Seneca leadership.

A second rally was planned in Albany, the state capital, a few days after the first protest.

Reprinted from The Eastern Door.

LOOKING BACK

THROUGH DIFFERENT EYES

By Will Nicholls

Do you remember that old song by Willie Dunn? Went something like this: "Here come the anthro's..." It is a song on how those people have left a bitterness with how they conducted themselves and what they did. Today, however, a different picture is seen by Indians across the landscape of North America, after the onslaught of "progress" that left a lot of the nations in ruin. With the languages dying out along with the knowledge, the anthropologists and archaeologists seem to be playing an important part in the revival of certain aspects of culture. For instance the Lil'wat Nation in B.C. almost forgot their songs. They went to the recordings made by anthropologists and relearned their songs. The anthropologists and archaeologists are increasingly sought by Native people. They give an insight into the past of the ancestors. As oral tradition dies out as the main way to impart knowledge, some are wondering what's been lost. Others though are wondering what's left.

Both are needed, the protectors, so to speak, and the searchers. The protectors to ensure that the traditions don't die out and become a thing of the past. The searchers to look at what is there and to find out if something that we have thought that we lost is indeed not so. Cathy Oberholtzer is one such searcher. She is not Cree but has spent the past 12 years traveling to 60 cities looking at Cree historical materials. Things that Crees wore, used and made when first contacted by Europeans. Through the collection of slides and photos she brings alive a past only the Elders can remember.

In those photos and slides is part of the legacy of all the Crees. One cannot help but feel the past is alive in what is done today but the searcher has found something that was thought lost.



Cathy, what would you call your field?

Well, sometimes Native art, sometimes historic ethnography, material culture. It falls under a lot of different categories and terms depending on who's doing what. I started out as an archaeologist but I was interested in the symbolism and meaning of the artifacts. At that time archaeologists weren't interested in that sort of thing and that's why I changed.

Does that mean you're one of the forerunners in your field?

To some extent. There are others who have done similar work but not too many.

How many cities have you go to looking for Cree artifacts?

Well, at least 60. You should have told me what you were going to ask me so I could figure this out. (laughter) We did 41 museums in Europe and England. I've done quite a few in the United States and Canada too.

What differences do you see with the Crees as compared to another culture?

Well, no one has looked at their material culture before. That's what's different. Skinner did a bit when he was collecting material. Specks did a bit when he was working from the other end. But no one has looked at the material culture and what it means in the culture.

I remember when you gave the lecture you said there were unique patterns on the Crees men's hunting leggings. Did other cultures do that?

Well, they did some and I think because the Crees wore them longer that we have more evidence. Certainly, the Iroquois did, and though the beadwork is very fine on the Iroquois, it's just usually white on a coloured background. The use of the colours are quite unique to the Crees. You can get into the area of the Micmac and they are also using some colour, but I don't know that there are as elaborate leggings for men and women in the later periods.

Some Cree women wore the leggings too. What were the differences?



Yes, they had a different shapes when it was in cloth. I think that when it was in caribou hide it was one shape, one cut. When it's cloth the men have a pointed area near the ankle and the woman's was rounded.

So what would the significance of that be?

Now you're baiting me. (laughter)... Well, it signifies to the caribou which of the people is the hunter and who is the hunter's wife so that the caribou doesn't inadvertently give herself to the hunter's wife.

Now about the hoods? What type of work went into those, the women's hoods?

The styles as far as I see it replicate the cosmology of the Cree world view with three panels, but there's also the overlap. The flowers representing the earth element. Certainly, I think the flowers are the imbedded symbolism that the Europeans recognized as the hoods being very beautiful and very Victorian. A feminine expression. I think that was one of the reasons that the women could wear the hoods for so long. The women themselves, I believe, continued to use their own symbols imbedded in their work. To express their own Cree values.

There's been some talk of having you do a tour into the Cree communities. What do you hope to get out of that?

Me? I hope to share the slides and photographs of the material that's in museums.

Would you like to find out more about the material going around in this way?

Well, I'd love to but the purpose is to really let people know what's there. Mind you, we have to make sure that people understand that there is no specific identification to either east or west Cree or even to specific communities. It's Cree material but actually where it comes from is very difficult to determine.

Do you see this as a problem if there are attempts to repatriate?

Very much so.

With what you are learning, do you see a time when it will be possible to tell where it came from?

I certainly hope so.

You've implied that this is a relatively new way to look at a culture?

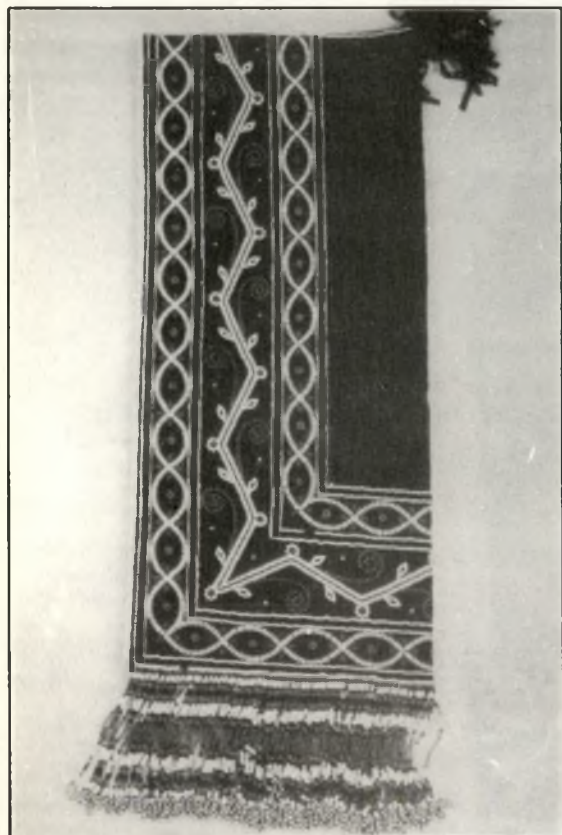
Yes, it has been done in other areas in Africa and even in parts of the United States. But as far as actually pinpointing the material as far as the Cree, because a lot of the material was collected very early and documentation wasn't recorded at the time, we really don't know where a piece came from. In other parts of North America pieces collected at a later time don't always -- but sometimes do -- have documentation as to where they were collected and when. Even sometimes as to who made them.

The more we know about the materials and about motifs that were used in certain areas, then the closer we'll get to pinpointing

where actual pieces came from.

Looking at the patterns, will you be asking people if they remember anything about them?

More or less. I would like a sort of open-ended discussion. Sometimes people will talk about something that appears not to have any relevance but in the long term I think it starts people to thinking, pondering about the things that their grandmother showed them or told them.



On page 13 there are some patterns and it is hoped that you will ask the Elders if there is any meaning to them. In this way we can help to preserve the past for the future, the Cree future where many questions will remain to be asked. If in some small way we can contribute to keeping alive the traditions and culture that make the James Bay Cree what we are then it is something that our children and their children will remember us for. If you have any information you can forward it to: William Nicholls, at The Nation. For address and phone/fax numbers, see page 4. Or you can contact Kenny Mianscum, at the Ouje-Bougoumou Band Council, Ouje-Bougoumou, Quebec G0W 1C0. Phone: 418-745-3911, fax: 418-745-3426.

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Name and Logo Contest

The Cree Nation Youth Rehabilitation Center of James Bay, situated in Mistissini is holding a Name and Logo Contest open to all the 9 communities.

The prize is \$300.00

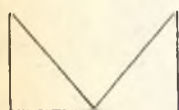
The Rehabilitation is a regional center that will serve the nine (9) Cree communities. It's specific mandate is to help Youth with social difficulties between the ages of 12 to 18 years of age to reintegrate with their families and communities.

To enter, mail your Name and Logo entry to the following address **by June 20, 1997** to:

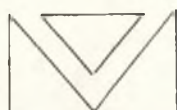
Name and Logo Contest
C/O Joe Neeposh
Reception Center
Mistissini (Quebec)
G0W 1C0

Please make sure to include your name, address and telephone number.

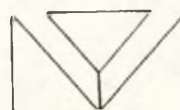
BEADING AND EMBROIDERY PATTERNS



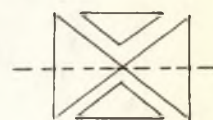
Negative Space



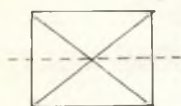
'classic'



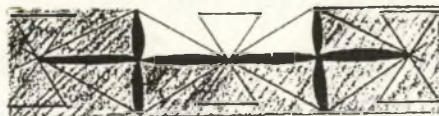
Stemmed



Mirror image.
(dotted line added)



mirror image
(dotted line added)

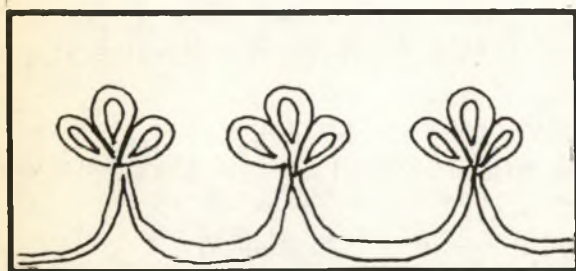


shading added to isolate motif

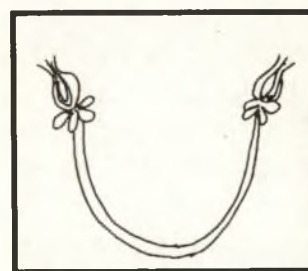


floral

The wedge-triangle Motif appears on numerous items (clothing and paraphernalia) dating from at least the 1700's. Some of these are still used by the Naskapi. Position on clothing and bags suggests that it was a cultural identifier. Identifies the wearer as a northern Algonquin speaker. Usually worked in as paint, porcupine quills or beads.



U-motif with trilobate 'finial'



U-motif with rosebud 'finial'

U-motif occurs on leggings, bags, hoods, and rarely on hide coats. This was seen most often as beadwork done on a cloth background.

This motif may have developed from a double-curve motif and/or caribou antlers.

This is thought to have an association with East Cree material.

If you have any information concerning these patterns please contact us using the information on page 12. Thanks in advance.

What are your priorities for the Federal Election?



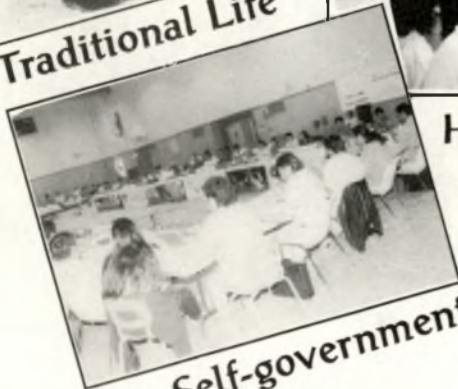
Traditional Life



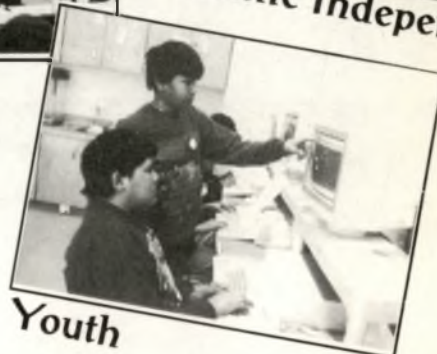
Health



Economic Independence



Self-government



Youth

The Liberal Red Book states that they are "... committed to seeing Aboriginal communities become stronger and healthier, and to furthering their progress towards Self-Government, well-being and economic independence."

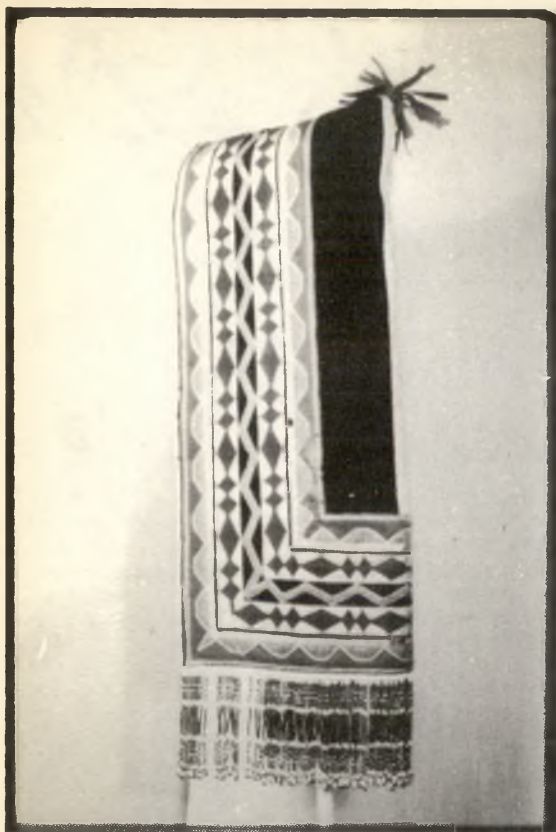
They foresee doing this by:

1. Affirming the inherent right to self-government;
2. Developing a plan, in partnership with aboriginal peoples and provincial and territorial governments, to respond effectively to the Royal Commission Report on Aboriginal Peoples;
3. Consolidating Aboriginal investment programs into one program;
4. Expand the Aboriginal Head Start employment program for youth to cover youth on reserve- \$25 million per year;
5. Establish a network of urban Aboriginal youth centers- \$25 million;
6. Establish an Aboriginal Health to do health research on the needs of Aboriginal Peoples;
7. Make available the Alternative Justice program to "all appropriate Aboriginal communities";
8. Work with Aboriginal Peoples to establish a program to preserve, protect, and teach Aboriginal languages.



Grand Council of the Crees (du Québec)
Grand Conseil des Cris (du Québec)
CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY
ADMINISTRATION RÉGIONALE CRIE





Above: Women's Traditional Cree Hood
Below: Beaded Tikanagan



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- First Nations community members with the chance to learn innovative solutions to community health issues and to share with resource people on culturally appropriate community development methods and strategies;
- An overview of health rights, transfer and self-government; and
- Conference participants with the motivation to begin personal wellness and healing strategies that will inevitably lead to healthier individuals and in turn healthier communities.

**For more information please contact
Penny Jacko at (613) 241-6789.**

Happy Mother's Day

To Nannie Swallow:

Happy Mother's Day! And thanks for the wonderful food. Thanks for the things we need and for our bedroom, and the bedspread we need. We have a very special mother.

From Jane, Elsa, Matthew, Nathaniel, Priscilla, Ariel, Leonda, Mickeal, Alexsander, Johnathan and Sidney. xoxxxx

Jane Swallow Gr. 4 V.M.S.



To: Emily Swallow

Thanks for all the wonderful things you did for me. I LOVE you. I just want to wish you a happy Mother's Day. Thanks for being a great mom.

Fr.: Mary, Philip, Erica, William, Lillian, Amanda, Walter

Mary Swallow Gr. 4 V.M.S.



To Ella Longchap

Thanks for everything that I need and the wonderful food you cook and the clothes you buy me. We love you so much. Happy Mother's Day. From: Paul, Marina, Vanessa, Charity, Ryan and Kalim.

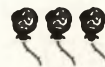
Vanessa Longchap Gr. 4 V.M.S.



To Charlotte Petawabano

Thanks for the wonderful family. Thanks for doing all those things for me. Thanks for my stuff. I love you. Happy Mother's Day.

Love always,
Marilyn Petawabano



"Mother's Day"

My Mother's name is Agnes Brien. She goes hunting and trapping for a living. She didn't go to school. She's a nice, kind and loving person. She cares for her children. She cleans and washes the house. I care for my mom. She goes in the bush all the time. I miss my Mom when she is in the bush all the time. My mom speaks Cree and English.

ED NOTE

These messages were received for our last year's mothers day special. There was no room for them, so we saved them till now. We aplogize for the wait.

Lawrence Brien

Grade 4 Eng.

Luke Mettaweskum School

Nemaska



Happy Mother's Day

To: Marlene we Love you so much. We love you and I would give you a gift. I love you and I will like you and I will clean the house and I will clean your room and I sweep the floor.

Love: "SALD" Grade 4 V.M.S.



To: Annette Rabbitskin

Happy Mother's Day

Thanks for all the things that you do. Thanks for letting me play hockey and letting me use the ski-doo. As well thanks for giving me a super Nintendo.

From: Shawn, Nathan, Bette and Marcy Rabbitskin

Shawn Rabbitskin Gr. 4 V.M.S.



Karen Masty

I like my mom very much. She is very nice and she makes me laugh all the time. I like her because she always buys me things. She is in Hull right now. She is going to school there. She lives with my brother. Also, she is pretty and kind. When I am with her in Hull, we do a lot of things. We go to the stores a lot and walk around. Also, me and my brother play games. I love my mom so much, and I will love her for always.

By: Leslie Dick

Luke Mettaweskum School

Grade 4 Eng.

Nemaska



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Winnie Jolly

My mom's name is Winnie Jolly.
She goes to the bush.
And I miss her.

By: Gideon Jolly
Luke Mettaweskum School
Grade 4 Eng.
Nemaska



M—is for Mother, she so kind
O—is for Obey your mother
T—is for Tease, I tease my mother
H—is for Happy, we're happy all the time
E—is for Excitement, we have excitement all the time
R—is for Respect, I respect my mother

Lawrence Ratt
Grade 5B
Maquatua Eeyou School
Wemindji



The Mom

Our mom can cook
in big Trout Lake
but that's a mistake
So I snook in the brook

Then my mom caught me!
She took me to the Fantasy
Then mom bought Lassie
The land was grassy

by Tommy McGee
Grade 6A
Wemindji



My Mother

My mother is loving and caring.
My mother holds me in her arms when I need a hug.
My mother is always there when I need her.

Mother you provided for your children all these years. You love us with all your heart.

All I really want to say is that... I LOVE YOU.

Emmett MacLeod
Secondary V
Voyageur Memorial School



Bonjour maman

À l'école ils ont dit d'écrire à nos mères.
Je veux te dire que tes biscuits sont excellents.
Tu fais souvent mon gâteau
à l'éponge avec ta superbe crème
Le t'aime un peu, beaucoup, à la folie.
Je vais changer mon comportement avec
toi, Marie-Eve et papa les t'aime.

ton Louis-Philippe
xoxoxo
Grade 6A
Maquatua Eeyou School

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

EVEN THOUGH WE DON'T SAY IT
ALL YEAR-ROUND, THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE FOR US.

THE STAFF OF THE NATION
WISHES ALL THE MOMS &
GRANDMOTHERS OUT THERE A
WONDERFUL DAY THIS DAY AND
EVERY DAY. YOU DESERVE IT!

My Mother

My mother
My mother is very special
She's special because I want her to be special
My mother

My mother
She's caring
Loving and also very little

But that don't mean I love her little
I love her a lot
but I don't tell her often enough
My mother

My mother
Maybe someday will come
When I will tell her that I love her
And I know that day will come soon
Still she knows deep inside that
I love her
My mother
Mother's day is coming
Maybe I'll give a gift again
but what kind of gift

Maybe an old rusty shoe
But she won't like that
because I gave her a shoe already
A shoe that I found outside, in a culvert
a few years back
My mother

"Anonymous"



Dear Mom,

Hi! How are you doing? As for me I'm just doing great. First of all I just wanted to say thank-you for everything that you have given me and what you taught me. Mom, you have been and continue to be a very special person in my life because you always fill it with love and happiness.

Remember that I love you mom and I will always love you. There are no words that can describe how much you mean to me.

I thank God for such a wonderful mother like you, mom. I really like the way you are; you are a wonderful, loving and caring mother.

Mom, I love you with all my heart. You turned around my life by talking to me and convincing me to stop drinking and convincing me not to do drugs.

Once again, I love you mom with all my heart and soul.

Happy Mother's Day mom.

Your loving daughter,

Maggie Matoush

Sec. III Voyageur Memorial School

Mistissini

P.S. Mom, remember that I will always love you

No one like you

I've searched everywhere and never found no one like you
You've given me so much faith and hope—above all is your love

You've taught me to love others the way you've always shown me your love

No one like you has given me so much respect and understanding

No one like you knows me better the way you know me

No one like you can ever take your place in my heart

You've given me the real meaning to life itself

I can keep searching till the end of time and I'll never find no one like you

No one like you is to my "dear loving mother" Florence Moses

by: S. Moses-Gilpin
Eastmain, Quebec



Happy Mother's Day

"May this day be as special" as you are. Thank you for always being there for us. From all of your children. Sharon, Oliver, Ronnie, Terry, Queenie, Sam, Derek, Lorne & Gertie



A Mother

A mother goes through so much pain
So let her steer your path
She gives you so much love and she cares about every little thing you do
Just help her more by letting her be

Mothers look out for you all the time
So tell yourself to be careful with this special person

Mothers, just one in your life
Some are mistreated by their children
Just be with them as much as you can
So then you can have somebody to go to

They do care about us

John Matoush
Sec. IV
Voyageur M. School
Mistissini



Council of Elders

By Robbie Dick and Janie Pachano

It was intended that once a permanent council of Elders was established and its role and mandate were finalized, a report would be sent to The Nation explaining the purpose of the Council. However, the confusion that is starting to develop regarding the Council of Elders and the increasing number of requests for support on different issues have convinced us, with permission from the Elders, to present a brief report on the history and the current status of the Regional Council of Elders.

The Cree Regional Authority held the first special gathering of Cree Elders in 1981 and it was at this meeting that the idea of a regional council of Elders was first discussed. A recommendation was also made by the Elders that these meetings continue to be held periodically.

In 1982 the James Bay Cree Cultural Education Centre was established as a program under the Cree Regional Authority and the Centre was mandated to find funds to hold another Cree Elders' conference. Since then, the Elders have met on an annual basis. At each of these meetings, the subject of a regional council of Elders was discussed.

For many years, the Elders were hesitant to form a regional council for many reasons and it was only after they themselves determined what their role might be that they began developing a structure and guidelines. They chose their coordinator—Robbie Dick—four years ago and mandated him to assist the Elders in those communities which did not have a council of Elders in establishing local councils, only if requested by the communities.

A provisional Regional Council of Elders was established at an elders' meeting in Waskaganish in March 1996. The elder representatives present at that meeting appointed elders from their respective communities to sit on the Regional Council until such time as a permanent one was established.

Throughout 1996 and up to now in 1997, the elders have continued to work on their mandate and guidelines. They have determined that there will be areas in which they should not be involved and they are religion, politics, and local issues. Their role and mandate, as determined by themselves is:

- a) to oversee regional and/or common concerns and interests of the Cree Nation in cultural development;
- b) to assist in the development of a common Cree Nation mission statement to ensure compliance with Cree traditional customs and values;
- c) to assist the Cree leadership in all issues in order to reflect Cree values and traditions in dealings with governments and non-governmental bodies;
- d) to establish and maintain a regional cultural centre or Cree knowledge centre;
- e) to establish and maintain a research and development program on Native culture;
- f) to ensure the continuation of our cultural heritage and to ensure the use of our traditional language in all our organizations and our dealings with the rest of the world;



g) to uphold the spiritual teachings which have been passed down by our people from generation to generation- whatever spiritual teachings are deemed appropriate and agreeable to the elders; and

h) to be the traditional voice of our nation and the wisdom keepers of our people.

Elder representatives were chosen to meet with the Cree Regional Authority/ Grand Council of the Crees Council/ Board to request formal recognition, but we were informed that official recognition or sanction has not been discussed again at the top political level. Although the Regional Council of Elders is still in its infancy and it has not been officially recognized by the Chiefs and the Cree Regional Authority/ Grand Council of the Crees, the elders have already met with or received requests from different groups seeking guidance or support on issues such as trapline/ hunting/ game management, youth suicides, various social problems, organized religion vs. traditional teachings and/or ceremonies, and many local problems.

The elders have stated that the communities are experiencing upheavals that cannot be addressed by the chiefs alone and that it is time for them, the elders, to become involved. They are not saying that the chiefs and councils are incapable of dealing with the social and other problems facing Crees; they are saying that all Crees need to be involved, including the youth, the elders, and the women, such is the extent of our problems. Our chiefs need our help and support; this is what the elders say.

They want to ensure that the Council is established properly; therefore, they are taking their time in determining how they can help their people. At each meeting the elders keep repeating that the Regional Council must not allow itself to be used to fuel hatred and misunderstanding among its people, that it must not do anything that can be pointed out as an example of what is creating confusion among our youth and people. In other words, they say, the Regional Council must operate at all times with respect, wisdom and love.

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

Spring

Colour of sunshine is the perfect shade to see
Scent of a spring is the perfect air we need
and seeing this beautiful flower growing from
a seed is a good sign indeed
Caring for all the things that are growing and for each other
Put the love for each little thing and
there you'll find the answer
I'll never stop loving you 'till I die and I'll
adore you forever
I'll always remember the times we laughed
and the times we cried
You gave me courage to fight and put
something in me that is pride
You did you best to let me accept the
people I care for died
You stood by me, you stood there as
my guide

Dedication goes out to Mr. and Mrs. Robbie Matthew Sr. from Chisasibi Que. Thank you for giving me support, love, advice, sharing your stories and courage to fight my fears. Thanks a lot for everything. Enjoy your goose-break.

With lots of love,
Hannah
xoxo

I thought I was alone

I thought I was alone, but I wasn't the only one with a troubled mind and afraid to let go of pain. Keeping a secret for 21 years wasn't a bright idea, and letting it go really helped me a lot. It was okay to let it go and I feel good deep down. Letting my inner child grow wasn't a bad idea.

I thought I was alone, but I wasn't the only one to be abused first sexually and then physically. But once I got older I said to myself, it's about time to really break free, to let myself be and to study what to do about it. That's when I realized what I did to myself. Keeping a secret like that wasn't a good idea.

I thought I was alone, but I wasn't the only one to be a problem child when I was young. Taking alcohol and drugs to bury my wounds wasn't a bright idea. I let go of the problem, and opened up four years ago. There was a bright light coming into my life. I can see myself with sunshine around me and I feel like I am lighter than before.

I thought I was alone, but I wasn't the only one. Don't think like me when I was a kid; nowhere to go or nobody to talk to. And I want to say to our teenagers, please don't be afraid to let go of your problems, 'cause there's a lot of good listeners out there, and we were there before, so we are here to listen. Please let go of the pain and let your inner child grow.

I am a survivor.
Enclose with a prayer
God grant me the serenity to accept the things
I cannot change... Courage to change the things
I can and Wisdom to know the difference...

Dear Dimples,

When God moulded us to His purpose,
He did not make us all prophets, evangelists, preachers or teachers,

He had a different purpose for each of us
For some, he moulded them to be in a good, honest and loving service.

Thank you, for sharing the Gospel with me.

The small lite at the end of the tunnel is now starting to shine brighter.

I am now ready to say "no" to the thoughts of suicide.

And now I can hear the small, still voice deep within my that is saying

"My child, I love you. I will never leave nor forsake you."

God moulded those dimples into your face for a purpose... Keep Smiling...

From GLEN

In memory

In memory of a precious little boy who passed away on May 4, 1996, Christopher Moses Wapachee Boyluckju

Your smile will always be in our memories and your laughter still echoes in our thoughts.

Our memories keep his spirit alive, our feelings remain strong, so as never to forget how much he meant.

How many lives he touched.

How much love he has given, always in our thought, forever in our hearts.

You never said good-bye to us.

Perhaps it's just as well. We never could have said good-bye.

Sadly missed by:

Allan, Lana, Caleb, Celeste, Corey

WRITINGS

Memories of Mario Wapachee

I just wanted to be your guide. But I am really sorry my nephew. I never meant to feel this way of love you less. I just wanted to love you forever. But I will never forget you. I am happy for you. You're in a safe and nice place up there in heaven.

I never meant to lose your touch. I never meant for us to be apart. I just wanted you to be happy and most of all I just wanted to be your best friend and best aunt.

My love for you I can't seem to reach out any more. I try to reach you but you seem to be too far up. My love for you is slowly fading away, just like a fog in the air. I thought I had the strength to carry on but not any more. My love for you I can't describe. Each time I think of you, I always shed a tear. My love for you never seemed to have reached you. Is it my love for you that I keep sheeding tears? Or am I losing my faith and hope? Where have I failed you? Someday, somehow, somewhere I'll find the answers if I have the strength to search and to carry on for my love never meant anything to you. Maybe I'll see you someday.

Love you always your aunt in Ojaj

Elizabeth Wapachee

In memory

In memory of Christopher Moses Wapachee, our nephew and cousin who passed away on May 4, 1996

To the one we loved so much

It broke our hearts to lose you

But you didn't go alone

For part of us went with you

The day God called you home

If teardrops were stairways

and memories a lane,

we could walk right up to heaven and bring you home again.

Forever loved and deeply missed.

By your uncle and aunt George and Lillian Neeposh

Cousins Jason, Emma, Michael, Krystle and Melanie

Have no fear, love is near

A life's night begins, there is no doubt that there will be laughter, pain, joy and sorrow, but whatever happens, we must fight to survive our troubled times, for the secret of life is to love. Love is what we need for we may never see another tomorrow. And if our land is to be destroyed, we shall not be, for we are all strong in mind and in spirit. If only we can shut out the cold and stop the storms, life would be so perfectly pure and gold. But we shouldn't despair for we hold the key to survive, and it is to love one another.

Love is what is needed, take it away and our earth is a tomb. Wind and rain may come through, but we still have to live, to be proud and hopeful. We shall live together till the past has passed and the earth has died. Death is for us all, but until then we all have our lives to live and to love.

Love that we should give will surely be returned to us in full. Our ancestors have been proud in their years of living, so let's follow their example and be proud to live and to love the way we want. For loving is best and there is no other such pleasure in life. So, I say, live and let live, love and be loved, for fear has vanished and for love is near.

Épicerie Martineau enr.

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She's my little deuce coupe.....

William Nicholls

Hot dusty days and sweltering heat on gravel roads make any trip a mini-version of hell guaranteed to have sinners praying for something cool if you haven't any air conditioning in your car. Up north it's a must-have option but one that you have to take care of. It's recommended that you check the air conditioning at least once a year to keep it in tip top shape. If you take it into a garage ask them to check the seals and belts to see if they have any leaks and are running efficiently. A little money now goes towards saving replacing the entire system because gravel roads are harder on the system than pavement. If you have an older car you may be using CFC's in your car and these are harmful to the environment. Ask a dealer about conversion kits. You can convert to HFC's which are better for everyone. If you're worried about the cost of running an air conditioner, it adds about 2-5 per cent in your annual fuel bill for the car. Of course this works out to a 15-20-per-cent increase in fuel consumption in the summer when you use. Your choice.

Summertime maintenance also means it's probably time to rotate your tires so the wear and tear is spread out more evenly. It saves money as you don't have to replace them as often.

When looking at your tires if the thread seems more worn out on the inside then the outside then you probably need to have your wheels aligned. Doing this will also give you better fuel economy as well as making the vehicle easier to handle on the road.

When do you need your wheels balanced? When you reach certain speeds does your car start to shake? If it does then it is time!

Cupping is when your tire has worn spots shaped like a cup on them. This means that your shocks are worn or your suspension is loose. A series of cups (see diagram) means that you definitely need to balance the wheels.

Want to save a lot of money and time? Seems the major reason your muffler drops is a broken clamp in most cases. Replacing the clamp is small change compared to replacing the entire system. This way one night you won't be putting on that fireworks show for all the other drivers. I'm sure everyone has seen the trail of sparks in the night as a muffler drops. When you see it ahead of you stop immediately. If there is a gas tank leak of any kind then there is a danger. Even if the tank isn't leaking the pipe has been known to turn into a spear rupturing the tank.

Breath in and out. Doesn't that feel good? Now put a pillow in front of your face covering the nose and mouth. Try the same thing. The feeling changes, doesn't it? That's precisely what happens to your car when you don't change the air filter. Dust, grime and oil can harm your engine by clogging the air filter costing you an engine. That'll cost you big bucks to replace while an air filter costs



about \$5-10. Dirty air filters also cost you in terms of power and fuel economy.

Don't forget those other filters too! There's the oil, gas and PVC filter. All of them need regular maintenance and what you spend on filters you'll save on gas. Makes sense to spend a little now and recoup the savings rather than the big bills down the road. Not to mention the inconvenience of having your vehicle breaking down just when you need it the most... like every day.

Now exactly what does that funny sound in your car mean? All the sounds below are meant to give you a hint of what is happening and this is by no means the last word...

i) Tick, tick, tick- Check to see if your oil is low. If not then take to a mechanic. It could be a valve-lifter problem, faulty belt or exhaust leak.

ii) Thump, thump, thump- Check for worn areas on tires. You could be looking at a blow-out as it could be tire thread separation or alignment problems.

iii) Whining- Have the transmission or power steering fluid checked if this happens when you start moving from a dead stop to regular driving speed. Other possibilities are wheel or axle bearings that have to be checked immediately.

iv) Knock, knock, ping, ping- Car needs to be tuned-up. Sometimes using a higher octane fuel will cure the problem.

v) Clunk- When you move forward or back it could be a universal joint problem.

vi) Click...silence- Batteries dead, starter or charging system problems. Before panicking check the fuses to see if any are blown out.

vii) Growl, grind, scrape, squeal- All these sounds usually mean the braking system is having problems. A mechanic is called for.

viii) Screech- Worn, loose or glazed belt. Easily replaced by a mechanic.

Happy 16th birthday to my special friend Gloria Tanoush on April 29. I hope your day will be as special as you. Enjoy your day and enjoy yourself. Fr: friend always Rebecca Otter (Spuds) xoxox (Was) Take care!

I would like to wish a happy 17th birthday to my cousin Kimberley Happyjack on April 30. Hope all your wishes come true. Fr: always cousin Rebecca Otter (Spuds). Have fun on your birthday xoxox

Happy birthday, happy birthday & happy birthday to Darlene MacLeod Shecapio on May 3rd, Alexandra MacLeod on May 4th & Dwayne MacLeod on May 10th. We love you. From all the MacLeod family at Camp Penicauane, Route du Nord. xoxox

Belated birthday greetings going out to Norman Cheezo (Eastmain) Happy 42 birthday. I'm not going to say the whole number. I know you are looking at girls sometimes, actually older women (just joking). You still look young but you're getting very old everyday. Ha! Ha! See you soon! Take care! From Andrea M. (Whap)

On April 13, a belated birthday wish going out to David Bearskin whom I think as a very special grandpa, father and most of all a friend. I love you with all my heart. Hope to see you soon! With love, Cheryl in Mist.

Happy belated birthday to my uncle William Bearskin Jr. on April 15. Hope your wishes and dreams come true. P.S. Take care of yourself and your family. From C.B.

Sometimes we're real close friends. We stay up late and talk at night. Other times we don't get along. There were even times we fight but I know she'll always be there and I know she'll care. She's my sister. I love my sister. Wishing a happy belated birthday to my sister Charmaine on April 1. Hope you had fun on your special day. P.S. I'll keep in touch. From your sis who misses you a lot. C.B.

All the way from Mistissini, someone had thought of you on your birthday April 19 and guess who that was; someone who knows how many candles you've blown this year. May your dreams brighten your way and be blessed by the great spirit. Happy birthday friend. From C.B.

Wishing a very happy birthday to my special friend Clayton Visitor in Chis. Though time & distance keep our friendship limited at times. I could not pass up the chance to send you this birthday greeting. Take care and many more happy returns. In friendship, love always your long lost friend. Let's try harder to get together sometime. Missing you. Remember I am always there for you. VKW.

Happy 3rd birthday to our little princess Amanda SunShine on May 11th and many more to come. The day you came into our lives you brought us joy and happiness. Oh yes, we love you very much. Love always, Mom & Dad.

Happy birthday to our special daddy, Willie on May 18th. We hope your day will be special as you are, daddy. We love you so much, so is mom. Love always, your kids, Troy, Amanda and Elmer.

Happy birthday to a special grandma Luce G. Iserhoff on May 18th and also happy mother's day. May your days be special as you are, Grandma. I miss you and I love you. With love always, your granddaughter Rosa and great grandchildren.

This birthday wish is going out to a special great grandma, Luce Gunner Iserhoff, who will be celebrating her birthday on May 18th. Once again happy birthday grandma, I love you and miss you a lot. From your great granddaughter in Wask. Betty Rabbitskin. xoxoxo

Birthday greetings going out to my favorite cousin Eveleen. She'll be celebrating her 17th birthday on April 22nd. Stew, you may be getting old but you still look young and pretty. So I also encourage you to finish your school and graduate. Cause you have a good career

ahead of you in the future. I know I haven't finished mine but still try hard. With a lot of love Marcella S. Diamond. P.S. Happy Easter Stew & Jo.

Happy birthday to my aunt Margaret Herodier on May 5th. and to my cousin Lana H. on May 18 and also my mother has a some birthday on May 18. Love and friend Nina Metabie in Mist.

Happy 1st birthday to Hannah Petawabano on April 10th and my my niece Alysia Pet on May 2 and to my second cousin Kecia B. Met. on May 12. Many more to come and may you girls grow strong. Love Nina Metabie (Mist).

Special birthday greetings going out to Collin Rendall John Blueboy who is celebrating his first birthday on April 11. It seems like it was only yesterday when I heard your first cry and now you're this very energetic, walking, wanting to get into everything, little rascal whose always finding new ways to surprise me. I hope this day is as special to you as your are to me. Love always, mommy.

Happy 4th birthday to Christina (Chewy) on April 19. Wishing all the best have lots of fun on your birthday. You deserve it because you so tiny and sweet. With love: Savannah, Kerishia and auntie Gloria

Happy 3rd birthday to my son Brendan

Mattawashish on April 4. I wish you all the best in year to come. I love you so much with all my heart. Take good care. Love (mom & dad) Peter & Trifona and your baby brother Harry Mattawashish (Mist). xoxoxoxo

Happy 18th birthday to Jeannette Mary Coonishish on April 4. God bless you. Happy birthday to Brendan Matt. on April 4. 3 years old. I wish you all the best in year to come. Take care. From Diana & Nicholas Trapper (Mist). xoxoxo

Happy birthday to my mom Rosie Trapper on March 20 and my sisters Catherine T. Ottereyes (Wasw) on March 17 and Maggie T. Longchap on March 25. Wishing all the best and take good care. More to come. From Trifona T. Matt. (Mist) xoxoxoxoxoxoxox

A birthday wish to a very special nephew (Victor Brien) on May 1. You are now a very fine young man and I wish you a happy life. Remember Victor that you're very special to me and I hope you will continue to good in school. I know that God will always protect and watch over you. May the good Lord bless you & family. You will always be in my prayers because I believe with all my heart you're the future generation and God will pour out his Holy Spirit on every flesh. God bless you! With love: Louise Matt. (Mist) P.S. Lots of kisses & hugs to your from your friend Arny Matt. (Brownies).

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CLASSIFIEDS

Happy birthday to a friend in of mine in Chisasibi, Hannah Louttit on Feb. 27. Hope we will see each other again. From your friend in Mist. A.C. xxx

A very happy 1st birthday to our little boy Brayven James Georgekish on May 1st. We love you very much! Lots of hugs and kisses from mommy and daddy and of course from Googoo, Frances and Jamie.



Happy 14th birthday to Juliette Rabbitskin (Washy) on March 14. Have fun on your birthday. Your friends Mabel Gunner, Valentina Mark, Jane Mark, Nina Metabie, Jessica Husky, Hattie Gunner & Margaret Swallow in Mist.

On April 4, God gave us a little baby girl. Her name is Eternity Joy Gull. Happy 1st birthday little girl. It's such a blessing to have a girl like you. You're so precious to us. Love always Mom, Dad, bro & sis. P.S. Hugs & kisses.

Happy belated 5th birthday to our daughter Caitlin Whiskeychan on April 9. We love you so much. With lots of love, Mom & Dad (Wask).

Birthday wishes to Kayla Whiskeychan on May 1 and to Katrina Stephen on May 24. Hope you girls have the best birthdays ever!! From: Greta & Caitlin (Wask).

Happy belated birthday to my dad on April 2. Dad, you will always be in heart even though we're apart. I'm sorry you and mom didn't work out. With love always your son, Darrelin Lee Stewart.

Happy belated birthday to the most important person in my life, my only son Darrelin Lee Stewart on March 25. With all my love: Mom (Deborah).

Happy 5th birthday to Kayla Maureen Nellie Whiskeychan and I love you so much. From your namesake and auntie Deborah.

Happy 1st birthday to my daughter Rosslynn Diamond on April 29th. Love always from mommy, Lisa Diamond (Chis). xoxoxox

Happy birthday to Max-Louis Matoush on May 24. Hope you have a blast. Love from Rosslynn Diamond (Chis). P.S. Stop pinching my lovely rosey cheeks. xoxoxox

Happy birthday to Alice Gull in Wask. So you're finally 13 years old. Happy birthday and don't party too much. Just

kidding. Good luck in school. From your friend in Wask. Guess who. xoxoxoxoxoxox

A belated birthday wish going to ur grandma Charlotte Cooper on April 4. You are so sweet, nice and special to everybody. We love you very much. Love always Gloria, Karry, Johnny, Dandy and Rhoda. Lots of hugs and kisses.

A special birthday wish going out to our special niece April. Happy 1st birthday on April 17. I hope your day will be special as you are. Hugs and kisses. With love, your auntie Rhoda Moar and Gloria Hunter in Waswanipi.

A belated birthday wish going to our special aunt Mary-Ann on April 2. You are a very special aunt. We love you very much. With love your niece Rhoda and Gloria Hunter.

Birthday wish to a special friend Nadia Happyjack on April 29. Fr: your friends in Waswanipi. Clara Gull, Priscilla Meilleur, Jonathan O'yes, Kyla Grant, Maryanne Gull, Nathalie Icebound.

Happy birthday to Blake Bosum on Feb 8. Hope you have a good time. Also you are a special person to us. Keep up the good work on your hockey games. Keep on going no matter what happens. We love you. From Jerry, Hattie, Mina (O-Jay).

Happy birthday to Lorna Salt. Her birthday's coming soon on Jan 31. Mary-Grace Salt on Feb. 7. And last but not least Darren "the brad" Shecapio on Feb 15. Happy birthday nerds. From someone, somewhere in Wask.

To Candice Marie, you're the bravest of hearts. You're the strongest of souls. And every little thing of beauty comes shining thru your eyes. Have a happy birthday Can. Love Mom, Dad, Teresa, Holly, Rachel, Honey-Boy and Donna.

Birthday greetings to my brother Joseph Jimiken on Jan 28. Happy birthday and I love you. Love sis, Flora Trapper.

Birthday greetings to our children Laurie Loon on Feb 17, John Max on Feb 24th and to our baby Elizabeth on Feb 20. Happy birthday to you all and many more to come. We love you all. Mom and Dad (Flora & Boyce). P.S. Happy birthday to my mother Annie Jimiken on Feb 13. Love Flora.

Belated birthday greetings to our grandson Joe Max Loon on Jan 14. Happy birthday Joe and many many more to come. Love ya. Googoo and Joom Shoom (Flora & Boyce) P.S. Enjoy your new skidoo, but don't ride too wild and fast.

Happy b-day to friend Kathleen on Feb 20. I am glad to have a like you. Wishing you happiness on your special day & many more to come. Friend always in O-Jay. P.S. Don't party too much. Ha. Ha. Just

kidding. Have a great time!!

Happy birthday to a 8 year old boy on Feb. 13 (Kurt Gilpin). We love you & keep smiling. With love always Mom, Dad, Darryl, Lanny, Cecil, Preston and sister Jenny (Eastmain).

A happy birthday wish to Lanny Gilpin on Feb 26. May your day be as special as you are to us, and many more to come. With love always, Mom, Dad, Darryl, Cecil, Preston, Kurt and your sister Jenny (Eastmain).

Wishing a happy belated birthday to my wonderful and caring sister, Karen Bosum on Jan. 6. Happy birthday and many more wonderful years coming your way and I would like to thank-you for being here for me whenever I needed you, good and bad times and thank-you for all the fun and caring moments you've shared with me. I'll never forget your loving care for me. You are more than a sister to me, you are my best and very special for life! I love you even though we have some tough times. With love, sis Naomi Bosum (O-Jay).

Happy birthday to our father, grandfather, great grandfather Robert Bosum on Feb 15. Joomsoom, may God bless you on this day, with treasures from above, because there is no other gift as precious as your love. Just to let you know that we love and care for you very much. Hugs and kisses from your family. xox P.S. Happy valentine's day Joomsoom on the day before.

Happy birthday going out to two wonderful brothers of mine who have grown up to be fine young men Daniel B. on April 15th & Thomas on the 17th. Happy day guys. Don't grow up too much! Love you guys. From Weena.

Jeremy Ryan, you're special to us and we want to wish you a happy 11th birthday on April 19th. We love you. Fr. Stanley, Stephanie & Conrad Joe. P.S. Coco loves you too!

A special belated birthday is going out to my little man and my baby boy, Willis Carlos Dominick who is a happy, hyper three year old. Please don't make mommy run around too much now. I know you are getting anxious to run and play outside. Summer is just around the corner. And try to be nicer to Charmaine. With lots of hugs and kisses, I love you my baby. Mommy.

Happy birthday to a little girl who will be turning 5 years old on May 7th. Hope your day is as special as you are Gillian Joyce Esau. You are loved by all of us. Mom, Dad, Connie, Carrie-Lynn & Julius.

103-ANNIVERSARIES

Happy 5th anniversary to my loving husband Ricky on March 20th, 97. Being married to you is one of the best things that ever happened to me. I love being

your wife and I love our lives together. I love you with all my heart. Queenie. By the way have a happy birthday on the 28th.

Happy 25th anniversary to the greatest grandparents Roderick and Gracie on April 5th. having you as grandparents has been the greatest gift that we could ever have. We love you very very much. From Serena, Cecily-Ann, Dylan, Rachel, Michael, Delmer, Sammy and the 4 K's.

104-GRADUATIONS

Congratulations to Lisa Neeposh, Charlotte Bosum, Jane Fireman, Philip Cooper, Kevin Martin, Eric Happyjack, James Moore for graduating from Sec. V in Sabtuan Adult Education. Good luck to all.

To all the ladies graduating at Chis. Adult ed. on May 2, 1997, especially the cooks. Congratulations to all of you. I expect to get really fat from all the free meals. Fr. Boysh

300-PERSONALS

Happy Easter to Barbara, Lukas and Leonard in Hull, Quebec. From your mother Annie.

To my lovely Princess in Ouje-Bougoumou. You are my moon, my sun, my stars, my whole universe! And you are the air that I breathe. I can't live without you. You are my reason to live. To me you are more precious than silver, more beautiful than a red rose and way more beautiful than diamonds. When I gaze into your eyes I can see the beauty that God has created. And my love for you is more deeper than a sea, more wider than an ocean and way more bigger than the whole universe! I love you more than life itself! With love from my heart, your boyfriend (U know me) P.S. "Greenish Brown U". Our secret love code. xoxoxoxoxoxoxoxox

Good Luck! bonne Chance! A toute mes élèves de secondaire 1 (01). Je pars en congé de maternité je ne vous oublie pas. Vous avez été une classe vraiment spéciale. Surtout ne skippez pas. Je vous souhaite une belle fin d'année et de belles vacances! de Sylvie (professeure a Chisasibi.)

Hello to my aunt Anna Trapper in Mist and thank you very much for all the support that you have given me since I was a little girl. You've helped me in many ways, like helping my mom raise me. Job well done and now you have a family on your own to raise. You really encouraged me to finish my education and you stood right beside me when I needed someone to lean on and to count on. I want to thank God for giving me an aunt like you. I wouldn't ask for anything more. I'm glad you're my auntie. I love you with all my heart and God bless your precious family. Love, your niece Charlotte. (Was.)

The Cree Board of Health & Social Services of James Bay is seeking candidates for the position of :

Assistant to the Mental Health Coordinator

Based in Chisasibi, the Assistant's main task will be to support the Mental Health Coordinator in setting up our Regional Mental Health Program as well as contributing to the development of this program.

The Assistant will:

- play a central role in sharing information among the Cree communities of various regional and local initiatives and activities related to mental health by compiling and distributing this information;
- play a key role in establishing a network among persons dealing with mental health issues;
- explore traditional methods and develop ways of incorporating them into our services;
- in close collaboration with the coordinator, receive and direct calls related to mental health from interveners in the communities, to ensure a place to turn in time of crisis;
- supply clerical support to the department.

Required Qualifications:

- D.E.C. in Nursing, Social Services or Psychology. Extensive experience in an appropriate field will be considered in lieu of academic requirements;
- Keen interest in mental health issues;
- Initiative and strong organizational skills;
- Excellent knowledge of English and Cree. Basic knowledge of French;
- Exceptional aptitudes in communication;
- Knowledge of "WordPerfect" is an asset.

This temporary position will be reevaluated in October 1997.

Salary will be based on qualifications on technician base, to which an isolation premium is added.

Interested persons are invited to forward their résumé and a photocopy of their diploma before May 7, 1997, along with a text describing their interest for this position and experiences in this field to:

Mr. Patrice G. Blais
Head of Personnel Department
Cree Board of Health & Social Services of James Bay
Chisasibi, Quebec
J0M 1E0
Tel: 819-855-2844 ext. 5340
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